

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

1. (currently amended): An image processing apparatus ~~which reads a document and outputs the document to a printing device or external device~~, comprising:

read means for reading an image on ~~[[the]]~~ a document that contains image storage information representing a location where an original image of the document is stored;

authentication means for authenticating whether a user can utilize an original image of the document ~~when the image read by said read means contains image storage information representing a location where the original image of the document is stored~~;

search means for searching the original image of the document from an image storage device which stores the original image of the document, on the basis of the image storage information when the user is authenticated by said authentication means; ~~[[and]]~~

setting means for setting a destination for the original image of the document in accordance with the user authenticated by said authentication means; and

output means for outputting the original image of the document ~~formed by search~~ searched by said search means to the ~~printing device or external device~~ destination set by said setting means.

2. (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image storage information includes information represented by a barcode.

3. (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image storage device includes a server device connected via a network.

4. (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~when the original image of the document is output to the external device via a network~~, said output means attaches the original image to E-mail, and outputs the E-mail with the original image to the destination set by said setting means.

5. (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for causing the printing device to print the image storage information, and causing the image storage device to store the original image of the document.

6. (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~when the image read by said read means is output~~, said output means does not perform authentication by said authentication means.

7. (currently amended): A processing method for an image processing apparatus which reads a document and outputs the document to a printing device or external device, comprising:

a read step ~~[[of]]~~ for reading an image on ~~[[the]]~~ a document that contains image storage information representing a location where an original image of the document is stored;

an authentication step ~~[[of]]~~ for authenticating whether a user can utilize an original image of the document ~~when the image read in the read step contains image storage information representing a location where the original image of the document is stored;~~

a search step ~~[[of]]~~ for searching the original image of the document from an image storage device which stores the original image of the document on the basis of the image storage information when the user is authenticated in the authentication step; ~~[[and]]~~

a setting step for setting a destination for the original image of the document in accordance with the user authenticated in said authentication step; and

an output step ~~[[of]]~~ for outputting the original image of the document searched in the search step to the ~~printing device or external device~~ destination set in said setting step.

8. (canceled).

9. (currently amended): A computer-readable recording medium which records a program which causes a computer to function as each means of an image processing apparatus defined in claim 8.